

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Wednesday, December 23, 2015

Anjali Julka
Phone: 312.793.9635

Ron Payne
Phone: 217.557.1869

Unemployment Rates up in Most Metro Areas *Job Growth Continues to Lag*

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	November 2015	November 2014	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	5.4%	5.0%	0.4
Carbondale-Marion	6.9%	6.3%	0.6
Champaign-Urbana	5.7%	5.3%	0.4
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.2%	5.8%	-0.6
Danville	7.7%	7.3%	0.4
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.8%	5.8%	0.0
Decatur	7.6%	7.4%	0.2
Elgin	6.1%	5.9%	0.2
Kankakee	7.2%	6.9%	0.3
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	5.6%	5.5%	0.1
Peoria	7.1%	6.3%	0.8
Rockford	7.5%	7.2%	0.3
Springfield	5.7%	5.5%	0.2
St. Louis (IL-Section)	6.7%	6.5%	0.2
Illinois Statewide	5.8%	6.0%	-0.2

* Data subject to revision.

CHICAGO – Unemployment rates increased in 12 metro areas, decreased in one and was unchanged in one. Eight metro areas across the state saw job loss compared to a year ago, according to preliminary data released today by the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Not seasonally adjusted data compares November 2015 with November 2014.

Illinois businesses lost jobs in eight metro areas including Carbondale-Marion (-1.8 percent, -1,000), Quad Cities (-1.7 percent, -3,200), and Lake-Kenosha (-1.5 percent, -6,300). Illinois businesses added jobs in six metros, in which the largest increases were seen in: Elgin (+2.0 percent, +5,000), Champaign-Urbana (+1.5 percent, +1,700), Danville (+1.4 percent, +400), and Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division (+1.3 percent or +46,900). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metros were: Transportation, Warehousing and Public Utilities (nine of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (eight of 14), and Education and Health Services (eight of 14).

“While the increase in unemployment rates will garner most of the headlines, more troubling is Illinois’ extremely low employment growth rate this past year,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “Out of 102 counties in Illinois, 96 remain below their pre-recession 2007 peak employment levels.”

The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 5.8 percent in November 2015 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.8 percent in November and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work, and is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – November 2015

Metropolitan Area	November 2015*	November 2014**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	96,400	95,500	900
Carbondale-Marion MSA	55,100	56,100	-1,000
Champaign-Urbana MSA	111,800	110,100	1,700
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,672,800	3,625,900	46,900
Danville MSA	29,800	29,400	400
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	181,400	184,600	-3,200
Decatur MSA	51,000	51,600	-600
Elgin Metro Division	260,000	255,000	5,000
Kankakee MSA	45,900	46,100	-200
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	400,200	406,500	-6,300
Peoria MSA	179,600	180,100	-500
Rockford MSA	152,300	152,600	-300
Springfield MSA	113,500	112,100	1,400
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	230,900	232,000	-1,100
Illinois Statewide	5,989,600	5,953,900	35,700

*Preliminary **Revised

– (continued) –

1087**15



**Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates
(percent) for Local Counties and Areas**

	Nov. 2015	Nov. 2014	Over- the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA			
DeWitt County	6.1%	5.7%	0.4
McLean County	5.3%	5.0%	0.3
Peoria MSA			
Marshall County	7.1%	6.2%	0.9
Peoria County	7.6%	6.8%	0.8
Stark County	6.9%	6.5%	0.4
Tazewell County	6.9%	6.0%	0.9
Woodford County	5.7%	5.0%	0.7
Ottawa-Streator Area	7.5%	7.0%	0.5
Bureau County	7.1%	6.4%	0.7
LaSalle County	7.7%	7.1%	0.6
Putnam County	6.7%	6.5%	0.2
Galesburg Area	7.0%	6.2%	0.8
Knox County	7.0%	6.2%	0.8
Warren County	6.0%	5.0%	1.0
Cities			
Bloomington City	5.4%	5.1%	0.3
Galesburg City	7.4%	6.8%	0.6
Normal City	5.5%	5.0%	0.5
Pekin City	8.4%	7.3%	1.1
Peoria City	7.9%	7.1%	0.8
Counties			
Fulton County	8.3%	7.3%	1.0
Henderson County	6.1%	5.0%	1.1
Henry County	7.0%	6.1%	0.9
Livingston County	6.0%	5.3%	0.7
Logan County	5.8%	5.7%	0.1
Mason County	8.0%	7.4%	0.6

Pontiac Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.0 percent in November 2015 from 5.3 percent in November 2014. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment was nearly unchanged at 14,225. Manufacturing (+150) and Government (+50) increased while Construction (-50), Trade, Transportation and Utilities (-50), Educational and Health Services (-50), and Leisure-Hospitality (-50) had declines.

Note:

Monthly 2014 unemployment rates and total non-farm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February 2015, as required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid.

###

Central Illinois Highlights

Help Wanted

Area employers advertised for 9,300 positions in November and approximately 92 percent sought full-time employment, according to Help Wanted OnLine data compiled by the Conference Board, which is a global, independent business membership and research association. Employers actually need more workers than the help wanted advertising indicates because some industries, such as Construction, typically do not post advertised job openings.

Bloomington MSA: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.4 percent in November 2015 from 5.0 percent in November 2014. There were an estimated 5,500 unemployed people in the labor force in November 2015.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased by (+900). Job gains were reported in Professional and Business Services (+600), Retail Trade (+500), Leisure and Hospitality (+200), Education and Health Services (+200), Other Services (+100), and Financial Activities (+100). Government (-400) and Construction (-400) reported declines. All other major industry sectors were unchanged compared to a year ago.

Peoria MSA: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.1 percent in November 2015 from 6.3 percent in November 2014. There were an estimated 13,600 unemployed people in the labor force in November.

Nonfarm payroll employment declined by (-500) compared to November 2014. Job gains were reported in Leisure and Hospitality (+3,300) and Educational and Health Services (+1,000). Declines were reported in Professional and Business Services (-1,700), Manufacturing (-1,300), Retail Trade (-1,100), Construction (-500), and Government (-200).

Ottawa-Streator Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.5 percent in November 2015 from 7.0 percent in November 2014. Nonfarm payrolls increased (+100) from a year ago. The largest gains occurred in Financial Activities (+100), Professional-Business Services (+100), and Leisure-Hospitality (+75). Construction (-75), Manufacturing (-50), Trade, Transportation and Utilities (-50), and Information (-50) reported declines.

Galesburg Area: The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.0 percent in November 2015 from 6.2 percent in November 2014. Nonfarm payroll employment was (-50) lower than last year. Professional and Business Services (+50), Manufacturing (+50), Leisure and Hospitality (+25), and Retail Trade (+25) added jobs. Losses were reported in Other Services (-75), Information (-50), Construction (-25), Trade, Transportation and Utilities (-25), and Financial Activities (-25).